What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing a wireless communications channel, comprising:

receiving at a docking station a first signal comprising at least a first communications channel control command from a first application program, wherein said first signal is formatted according to a first protocol, and wherein said docking station comprises an adaptor;

in response to receiving said first signal, selecting at least a first wireless communications device control command and formatting said at least a first wireless communications device control command according to a second protocol to create a second signal; and

passing data received from at least one of said first application program and a second application program through said adaptor and to a wireless communications device, wherein said data is transmitted over said communications channel.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said at least a first communications channel control command corresponds to said at least a first communications device control command.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitted data is formatted according to said first protocol.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said transmitted data is formatted according to a third protocol.

5. The method of Claim1, wherein said data received from said at least one of said first application program and said second application program is a serial data stream, and wherein said step of passing said data received from said at least one of said first application program and said second application program to said wireless communications device comprises encoding at least a portion of said serial data stream as a parallel data stream.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said at least a first wireless communications device control command is selected from a set of wireless communications device control commands, and wherein said first set of wireless communication device control commands is determined by said wireless communications device.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said at least a first wireless communications device control command is selected from a first set of wireless communications device control commands, and wherein said adaptor is incapable of selecting and formatting a wireless communications device control command selected from at least a second set of wireless communications device control commands.

8. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving at said adaptor a third signal comprising at least a second communications device control command from said wireless communications device, wherein said second communications device control command is formatted according to said second protocol; and

selecting at least a first communications channel control command and formatting said at least a first communications channel control command according to said first protocol to create a fourth signal, wherein said steps of selecting and formatting are performed by said adaptor.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein said first wireless communications channel control command is selected from a first set of wireless communication channel control commands and is formatted according to said first protocol, wherein said first set of wireless communications channel control commands and said first protocol are determined by said docking station, wherein said at least a first wireless communications device control command is selected from a first set of wireless communications device control commands and is formatted according to said second protocol, and wherein said first set of wireless communications device control commands and said second protocol are determined by said wireless communications device.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of selecting at least a first wireless communications device control command and formatting said at least a first wireless communications device control command according to a second protocol to create a second signal comprises:

selecting at least a first command from a set of API commands corresponding to said first signal;

formatting said selected at least a first API command;

selecting at least a first wireless communications device control command corresponding to said at least a first API command; and

formatting said at least a first wireless communications device control command.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein said steps of selecting and formatting an API command are performed by said docking station, and wherein said steps of selecting and formatting at least a first wireless communications device control command are performed by said adaptor.

12. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving at said docking station a query for information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device from said at least one of said first application program and said second application program, and returning said information to said at least one of said first application program and said second application program.

13. The method of Claim 12, wherein said information is stored in said docking station.

14. The method of Claim 13, further comprising interconnecting said wireless communications device to said docking station, wherein said information is stored in said docking station when said wireless communications device is interconnected to said docking station.

15. An apparatus for providing a wireless communications channel to at least a first application, comprising:

an adaptor for interconnecting to a wireless communications device capable of transmitting data, wherein aspects of the operation of said wireless communications device may be controlled using wireless communications device control commands selected from at least a first set of wireless communications device control commands;

a docking station interconnected to said application and to said adaptor, wherein a command selected from at least a first set of communications channel control commands received from said at least a first application is translated into at least a first wireless communications device control command selected from said at least a first set of wireless communications device control commands, and wherein data other than data comprising control commands received from said application is not translated.

16. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said data is formatted according to a first protocol, at least when it is passed between said at least a first application and said docking station.

17. The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said first protocol is an Internet protocol.

18. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein data other than data comprising control commands is formatted according to a first protocol when it is passed between said adaptor and said at least a first application, and wherein said data is formatted

according to a second protocol when it is passed between said adaptor and said wireless communications device.

19. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said docking station is interconnected to said at least a first application using a communications interface.

20. The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein said communications interface comprises a daughter board.

21. The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein said communications interface comprises an Ethernet interface.

22. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said adaptor is of a first type when said wireless communications device requires a command selected from said first set of wireless communications device control commands, and wherein said adaptor is of a second type when said wireless communications device requires a command selected from a second set of wireless communications device control commands.

23. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said docking station translates said command selected from at least a first set of communications channel control commands into a corresponding at least a first system command selected from a first set of system commands, and wherein said adaptor translates said at least a first system command into said at least a first wireless communications device control command selected from at least a first set of wireless communications device control commands.

24. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said adaptor comprises memory and wherein said memory contains information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device.

25. A method for providing a universal wireless data interface, comprising:

providing a docking station comprising an adaptor and at least a first standardized interface;

interconnecting said adaptor to a wireless communications device;

interconnecting at least a first external device to said standardized interface;

receiving at least a first communications channel control command from a first application running on said at least a first external device at said interface;

translating said at least a first communications channel control command into at least a first corresponding wireless communications device control command selected from a group of wireless communications device control commands; and

providing said at least a first wireless communications device control command to said wireless communications device.

26. The method of Claim 25, further comprising:

interconnecting at least a second external device to said standardized interface;

receiving at least a second communications channel control command from a second application running on said second external device at said interface;

in said adaptor, translating said at least a second communications channel control command into at least a second corresponding wireless communications device control command selected from a group of wireless communications device control commands; and

providing said at least a second wireless communications device control command to said wireless communications device.

27. The method of Claim 25, further comprising receiving at least a first data packet containing data other than a communications channel control command from at least one of said first application and a second application at said standardized interface;

providing said data packet to said wireless communications device, wherein said at least a first data packet is not reformatted by said adaptor.

28. The method of Claim 25, wherein said interface translates said at least a first communications channel control command into at least a first system command selected from a set of system commands, and wherein said adaptor translates said at least a first system command into said at least a first wireless communications device control command.

29. A method for providing a wireless data interface, comprising:

providing a docking station comprising an adaptor and at least a first standardized interface, wherein said adaptor is capable of receiving a wireless communications device,

providing said adaptor with information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device;

interconnecting at least a first external device to said standardized interface;

querying said adaptor for said information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device; and

passing said information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device to said external device.

30. The method of Claim 29, wherein said step of providing said adaptor with information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device comprises storing said information in said adaptor.

31. The method of Claim 29, wherein said step of providing said adaptor with information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device comprises receiving said information from said wireless communications device and storing said information in said adaptor.

32. The method of Claim 31, further comprising placing a wireless communications device in said adaptor, wherein said information is received from said wireless communications device when said wireless communications device is placed in said adaptor.

33. The method of Claim 29, wherein said step of providing said adaptor with information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device comprises querying said wireless communications device for said information and passing said information from said wireless communications device to said adaptor.

34. The method of Claim 29, further comprising:

receiving at least a first communications channel control command from an application running on said at least a first external device at said interface;

translating said at least a first communications channel control command into at least a first corresponding wireless communications channel control command selected from a group of wireless communications channel control commands; and

providing said at least a first wireless communications device control command to said wireless communications device.

35. An apparatus for providing a wireless communications channel to at least a first application, comprising:

an adaptor for interconnecting to a wireless communications device capable of transmitting data, wherein said adaptor is provided with information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device;

a docking station interconnected to said at least a first application and to said adaptor, wherein said information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device is provided to said at least a first application by said adaptor.

36. The apparatus of Claim 35, wherein said information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device is provided to said at least a first application by said adaptor in response to a query for said information by said at least a first application.

37. The apparatus of Claim 35, wherein said information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device is provided to said adaptor by storing said information in memory provided as part of said adaptor.

38. The apparatus of Claim 35, wherein said information regarding capabilities of said wireless communications device is provided to said adaptor when said wireless communications device is interconnected to said adaptor.